February 2005

The I-MANAGE Newsletter highlights current status and plans for the I-MANAGE enterprise-wide systems initiatives that are currently under development or that are in production within the Department.

Standard Accounting and Reporting System (STARS) - On Target for April 2005 Deployment

To facilitate the implementation of STARS and to ensure system operations are sustained after deployment, a key decision was made to restructure the STARS Project Team into two distinct groups. The new structure provides for a STARS Design and Development Team led by Laura Kramer, HQ and a STARS Deployment Team led by Sharon Marchant, NETL CFO.

The STARS Project Team has made great progress and continues to be well-positioned for the April deployment date. Key project activities continue to be accomplished with the current focus on the Conversion Strategy, two rounds of Integration Testing, and User Training.

The Integration Testing is being conducted in two cycles. The first cycle began January 3, 2005, and was completed on January 21, 2005; the second cycle is scheduled to begin the first week of February. Conversion routines were modified to accommodate an April cut-over, and legacy October and November data was converted for the first Integration Test cycle. Legacy first quarter data is already being converted in preparation for the second testing cycle. Issues raised during Integration Testing are being immediately addressed by the Project Team. Much improvement has been noted since the July 2004 User Acceptance Testing cycle.

In parallel with the Integration Testing efforts, the FY 2004 legacy General Ledger ending balances have been converted and reconciled into the STARS production environment. In addition, the FY 2005 October, November and December General Ledger data has also been converted and reconciled into the STARS production environment. Legacy General Ledger data will continue to be converted to the STARS production environment each month until STARS is implemented in April.

The STARS end user training will be delivered in March and April. A future STARS Training Communiqué will provide important information regarding the class registration process, locations, dates, and times of available training. To subscribe to the STARS communiqué, send e-mail request to STARS@hq.doe.gov

I-MANAGE Data Warehouse (IDW) – Made Available for Use January 2005

The initial IDW was deployed on January 31, 2005, to a limited number of system users. Access will be provided through a web-Portal. The IDW Portal will provide users with access to reports based on STARS conversion data. Initial reports available will include accounting flexfield values and relationships, and STARS general ledger and reconciliation reports. Additionally, the IDW Portal will provide access to Financial Data Warehouse (FDW) reports that are contained in the Financial Reports Center. Users that currently have a login for the FDW will be able to access the FDW (and Business Objects) directly via the IDW Portal.

When STARS is fully deployed in April, the IDW will begin providing production data from STARS with drill down and reporting capability. The STARS production data will be updated in the IDW nightly. Classes are currently being offered to the initial IDW users. Training will be expanded to a larger user community starting in April.

Specific training information will be published in the IDW Communiqué. To subscribe to the IDW communiqué, send e-mail request to IDW@hq.doe.gov

E-Travel (eTS) – New Service Provider

DOE has announced the selection of Northrop Grumman Mission Systems as the new service provider for e-Travel services. These web-based services are part of a government-wide e-government initiative to replace Travel Manager. The new eTS web-based service will provide on-line booking and travel authorization and vouchering services for the Department. Migration to this new travel service provider is scheduled for mid-FY 2006.

Corporate Human Resource Information System (CHRIS) – Major Announcement

There has been a merger of the Oracle and PeopleSoft corporations. The combined Oracle-PeopleSoft company was officially launched on January 18, 2005. Oracle has informed customers that support procedures for PeopleSoft and Oracle products on current environments are unchanged. Oracle will continue to enhance the PeopleSoft product lines and will release a new version of both the Enterprise and EnterpriseOne products. They will support Version 8 (DOE's current version) until at least 2013. The development planning for the Java-based successor product has begun and the goal is to bring together the best features and functionality of the Oracle and PeopleSoft products.

We expect no changes to the CHRIS system from this merger during the next two years and are continuing as scheduled to design and implement the next upgrade to Version 8.8 in June 2005 and to add the e-performance management module in the Fall of 2005.

I-MANAGE Program Website - New Design Available for Use

As reported in our last newsletter, the I-MANAGE Program Office restructured the I-MANAGE Program website to make it easier to locate I-MANAGE Program and Project information. The enhanced I-MANAGE website is now available for use. The new design will provide easy access to Project specific information from one location on the website, and will provide improvements for access to information on I-MANAGE Program initiatives the link for the I-MANAGE Program website is: http://www.mbe.doe.gov/ME2-5/I-MANAGE/INDEX.HTM.

Thank you for your interest in the Newsletter.

We invite you to visit the I-MANAGE Program website for additional information and welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have questions, we encourage you to use the "Contact Us" feature on the I-MANAGE website. While you are there, be sure to check our catalog of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

I-MANAGE Newsletter

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Program and Project

Websites:

http://www.mbe.doe.gov/ME2 5/I-MANAGE/INDEX.HTM

http://CHRIS.inel.go

